ATTACHMENT

2.1.G. NYSDEC SCOPING LIST

617.21
Appendix D
State Environmental Quality Review

Scoping Checklist

The following checklist of topics is intended as a starting point for developing a detailed scope for a project-specific Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Typically, no one project will require a discussion of all the topic areas contained in this document. Through the scoping process, the list of topics should be refined to reflect issues unique to the proposed project. Topic areas may be deleted, added or elaborated upon, to arrive at the final scoping document.

The purpose of the checklist format is to identify the basic topic areas of the Draft EIS. This is accomplished by reviewing the list and placing a check in the box located to the left of these topics which should be discussed. The model scoping checklist can also be used as a worksheet, including comments, suggestions and identification of the particular example(s) that are relevant to a detailed discussion of the topic or issue that has been checked. Conversely, those topics which are not checked, are issues not associated with the project and may be eliminated from discussion in the Draft EIS.

The next step is to expand the list to include or elaborate on those topics unique to the proposed project. A blank sheet is included at the end of the checklist for such additional information.

The scoping process involves several steps in addition to compiling a list of topics. Scoping also includes discussions on the quantity and quality of informaton required and the methods of obtaining that data.

NOTE: This check list was designed to be used in conjunction with the section on scoping contained in SEQR Guideline-Draft and Final EIS's. It is also important to emphasize that this checklist should serve only as a model to assist in the scoping of a Draft EIS. It should not be used as a substitute for actively scoping Draft EIS for a specific project.

I. Cover Sheet

All EIS's (Draft or Final) shall begin with a cover sheet that includes:

A. Whether it is a draft or final statement
B. Name or other descriptive title of the project
C. Location (county and town, village or city) of the project
D. Name and address of the lead agency which required preparation of the statement and the name and telephone number of a person at the agency to be contacted for further information
E. Name and address of the preparers of any portion of the statement and a contact name and telephone number
F. Date of acceptance of the Draft EIS
G. In the case of a Draft EIS, the deadline date by which comments are due should be indicated

II. Table of Contents and Summary

A table of contents and a brief summary are required for Draft and Final EIS's.

The summary should include:

A. Brief description of the action
B. Significant, beneficial and adverse impacts, (issues of controversy must be specified)
C. Mitigation measures proposed
D. Alternatives considered
E. Matters to be decided (permits, approvals, funding)

III. Description of the Proposed Action

Place a check in the box to the left of those topics to be included in the draft EIS.

☐ A. PROJECT PURPOSE, NEED AND BENEFITS
1. Background and history
2. Public need for the project, and municipality objectives based on adopted community developments plans
3. Objectives of the project sponsor
4. Benefits of the proposed action
a.) social
b.) economic

☐ B. LOCATION
1. Establish geographic boundaries of the project (use of regional and local scale maps is recommended)
2. Description of access to site
3. Description of existing zoning of proposed site
4. Other:

☐ C. DESIGN AND LAYOUT
1. Total site area
a.) proposed impervious surface area (roofs, parking lots, roads)
b.) amount of land to be cleared
c.) open space
2. Structures
a.) gross leaseable area (GLA), if applicable
b.) layout of buidings (attached, enclosed, separate)
c.) site plans and profile view
d.) material storage
e.) drainage plans
f.) above/underground pipelines
g.) staging area for material handling
3. Parking
a.) pavement area
b.) number of spaces and layout
4. Other:

☐ D. CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION
1. Construction
a.) total construction period anticipated
b.) schedule of construction
c.) future potential development, on site or on adjoining properties
d.) other:
2. Operation
a.) type of operation
b.) schedule of operation
c.) other:

☐ E. CLOSURE AND POST CLOSURE PLANS (for projects of planned limited life such as landfills)

☐ F. APPROVALS
1. Required changes or variances to the zoning regulations
2. Other permit approval or funding requirements

IV. Environmental Setting

Place a check in the box to the left of those topics to be included in the Draft EIS.

Natural Resource

☐ A. GEOLOGY
1. Subsurface
a.) composition and thickness of subsurface material
examples:
—depth to, and nature of, bedrock formations and impermeable layers
—occurrence of an extractive mineral resource
—usefulness as construction material
b.) earthquake potential
☐ 2. Surface
a.) List of soil types
b.) discussion of soil characteristics
examples:
—physical properties (indication of soils hydrological (infiltration) capabilities)
—engineering properties (soil bearing capacity)
—agricultural properties (soil profile characteristics) when agricultural land resources are involved
c.) distribution of soil types at project site
d.) suitability for use
examples:
—agriculture
—recreation
—construction
—mining
e.) other:
☐ 3. Topography
a.) description of topography at project site
examples:
—slopes
—prominent or unique features
b.) description of topography of surrounding area

☐ B. WATER RESOURCES
1. Groundwater
a.) location and description of aquifers and recharge areas
examples:
—depth of water table
—seasonal variation
—quality
—quantity
—flow
b.) identification of present uses and level of use of groundwater
examples:
—location of existing wells
—public/private water supply
—industrial uses
—agricultural uses

☐ 2. Surface water
a.) location and decription of surface waters located on project site or those that may be influenced by the project
examples:
—seasonal variation
—quantity
—classification according to New York State Department of Health
b.) identification of uses and level of use of all surface waters
examples:
—public/private water supply
—industrial uses
—agricultural uses
—recreational
c.) description of existing drainage areas, patterns and channels
d. discussion of potential for flooding, siltation, erosion and eutrophication of water supply

☐ C. AIR RESOURCES

☐ 1. Climate
a.) discussion of seasonal variations and extremes
examples:
—temperature
—humidity
—precipitation
—wind

☐ 2. Air quality
a.) description of existing air quality levels
examples:
—list the National and State Air Quality Standards for the project area and the compliance status for each standard
b.) identification of existing sources or pollutants-fixed or mobile
c.) identification of any sensitive recepters in project area
examples:
—hospitals, schools, nursing homes, parks
d.) description of existing monitoring program (if applicable)

☐ D. TERRESTRAL AND AQUATIC ECOLOGY

1. Vegetation
a.) list vegetation types on the project site and within the surrounding area
b.) discussion of site vegetation characteristics
examples:
—species presence and abundance
—age
—size
—distribution
—dominance
—community types
—unique, rare and endangered species
—value as habitat for wildlife
—productivity

☐ 2. Fish, Shellfish and Wildlife
a.) list of fish, shellfish and wildlife species on the project site and within surrounding area, including migatory and resident species
b.) discussion of fish, shellfish and wildlife population characteristics
examples:
—species presence and abundance
—distribution
—dominance
—unique, rare and endangered species
—productivity

☐ 3. Wetlands
a.) list wetland areas within or contiguous to the project site
b.) discuss wetland characteristics
examples:
—acreage
—vegetative cover
—classification
—benefits of wetland such as flood and erosion control, recreation

☐ E. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

1. Soils
a.) list soils by name, slope and soil group ranking within NYS Land Classification System (1 NYCRR 370)
b.) number of acres within each group
c.) location of site on soil survey map

☐ 2. Agricultural land management system(s)
a.) inventory of existing erosion control and drainage systems
examples:
—subsurface drain lines
—outlet/diversion ditches
—strip cropping
—diversion terraces
b.) relationship of proposed action to existing soil and water conservation plans (if applicable)

- ☐ 3. Associated operations
  - a.) number and types of farm operations on and adjacent to site
    examples:
    —dairy
    —grain
    —orchard
  - b.) type and proximity of farm related facilities
    examples:
    —storage units/barns
    —sorting/packing houses
    —refrigeration units
    —roadside markets
  - c.) access to cropland (including detached fields)
  - d.) access for farm equipment to public roads

Human Resources

- ☐ A. TRANSPORTATION
  - ☐ 1. Transportation services
    - a.) description of the size, capacity and condition of services
      examples:
      —roads, canals, railroads, bridges
      —parking facilities
      —traffic control
      —access/egress from site
    - b.) description of current level of use of services
      examples:
      —a.m. and p.m. peak hour traffic flow
      —vehicle mix
      —source of existing traffic
  - ☐ 2. Public transportation
    - a.) description of the current availability of service
    - b.) description of present level of use
  - ☐ 3. Pedestrian environment
  - ☐ 4. Other:
- ☐ B. LAND USE AND ZONING
  - ☐ 1. Existing land use and zoning
    - a.) description of the existing land use of the project site and the surrounding area
      examples:
      —commercial
      —residential
      —agricultural
      —business
      —retail
      —industrial
      —vacant
    - b.) description of existing zoning of site and surrounding area
    - c.) description of any affected agricultural district or other farmland retention program boundary in and surrounding the site
  - ☐ 2. Land use plans
    - a.) description of any land use plans or master plans which include project site and surrounding area
    - b.) discussion of future development trends or pressures
  - ☐ 3. Other;
- ☐ C. COMMUNITY SERVICE (for this section include a list of existing facilities and a discussion of existing levels of usage and projected future needs)
  - ☐ 1. Educational facilities
  - ☐ 2. Police protection
  - ☐ 3. Fire protection
  - ☐ 4. Health care facilities
  - ☐ 5. Social services
  - ☐ 6. Recreational facilities
  - ☐ 7. Utilities
  - ☐ 8. Public water supply
  - ☐ 9. Solid waste disposal
  - ☐ 10. Sewage treatment facilities
  - ☐ 11. Other:
- ☐ D. DEMOGRAPHY
  - ☐ 1. Population characteristics
    - a.) discussion of existing population parameters
      examples:
      —distribution
      —density
      —household size and composition
    - b.) discussion of projections for population growth
  - ☐ 2. Other:
- ☐ E. CULTURAL RESOURCES
  - ☐ 1. Visual resources
    - a.) description of the physical character of the community
      examples:
      —urban vs. rural
    - b.) description of natural areas of significant scenic value
    - c.) identification of structures of significant architectural design
  - ☐ 2. Historic and archaeological resources
    - a.) location and description of historic areas or structures listed on State or National Register or designated by the community, or included on Statewide Inventory

b.) identification of sites having potential significant archaeological value include results of cultural resource survey, if conducted

☐ 3. Noise
- a.) identification of existing level of noise in the community
- b.) identification of major sources of noise
  examples
  —airports
  —major highways
  —industrial/commercial facilities

☐ 4. Other:

V. Significant Environmental impacts

Identify those aspects of the environmental setting in Section IV that may be adversely or beneficially affected by the proposed action and require discussion.

VI. Mitigation Measures to Minimize Environmental Impact.

Describe measures to reduce or avoid potential adverse impacts identified in Section V. The following is a brief listing of typical measures used for some of the major areas of impact.

Natural Resource

☐ A. GEOLOGY
- 1. Subsurface
  - a.) use excavated material for land reclamation
  - b.) use facility wastes (ash, sludge) for land reclamation
  - c.) other:
- 2. Surface
  - a.) use topsoil stockpiled during construction for restoration and landscaping
  - b.) minimize disturbance of non-construction sites
  - c.) design and implement soil erosion control plan
  - d.) other:
- 3. Topography
  - a.) avoid construction on areas of steep slope
  - b.) design adequate soil erosion devices to protect areas of steep slope
  - c.) other:

☐ B. WATER RESOURCES
- 1. Groundwater
  - a.) design/modify system of treatment for stormwater runoff of wastewater prior to recharge of groundwater
  - b.) maintain permeable areas on the site
  - c.) institute a program for monitoring water quality in adjacent wells
  - d.) require secondary or tertiary containment of products/wastes
  - e.) contingency plans for accidental spills
  - f.) other:
- 2. Surface water
  - a.) ensure use of soil erosion control techniques during construction and operation to avoid siltation
    examples:
    —hay bales
    —temporary restoration of vegetation to disturbed areas
    —landscaping
  - b.) design adequate stormwater control system
  - c.) construct/modify sewage treatment facilities
  - d.) restrict use of salt or sand for road and parking area snow removal
  - e,) avoid direct discharges to surface water resources
  - f.) require secondary or tertiary containment of products/wastes
  - g.) contingency plans for accidental spills
  - h.) other:

☐ C. AIR RESOURCES
- 1. Air quality
  - a.) assure proper construction practices
    examples:
    —fugitive dust control
    —proper operation and maintenance of construction equipment
  - b.) design traffic improvements to reduce congestion and vehicle delay
  - c.) install and ensure the proper operation of emission odor control devices
  - d.) initiate a program for monitoring of air quality
  - e.) other:

☐ D. TERRESTRAL AND AQUATIC ECOLOGY
- 1. Vegetation
  - a.) restrict clearing to only those areas necessary
  - b.) preserve part of site as a natural area
  - c.) after construction, landscape site with naturally occurring vegetation
  - d.) purchase open space at another location and dedicate to local government or conservation organization

2. Fish, Shellfish and Wildlife
   a.) provide adequate habitat (shelter and food) for remaining wildlife species
   b.) schedule construction to avoid sensitive periods of fish, shellfish and wildlife cycles
   c.) other:

☐ E. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES
1. Soils
   a.) select/design project to avoid viable agricultural land
   b.) reclaim disturbed agricultural soil profiles for agricultural purposes
   c.) schedule activity when crops are off fields and soil is firm
   d.) other:
2. Agricultural land management systems
   a.) re-establish access drives, fence—lines and any disturbed land management systems
   b.) re-establish any disturbed erosion control and drainage systems
   c.) install soil and water management practices to restore or enhance soil drainage and stability
   d.) preserve open space for agricultural use
   e.) develop lease back arrangements to allow continued agricultural use on all or portion of site
   f.) other:

Human Resources

☐ A. TRANSPORTATION
1. Transportation
   a.) design adequate and safe access to project site to handle projected traffic flow
   b.) install adequate traffic control devices
   c.) optimize use of parking areas
   d.) encourage car pooling and operation of facility during non-peak traffic times
   e.) design special routing and restricted hours for delivery truck traffic
   f.) other:
2. Public transportation
   a.) adjust public transportation routes and schedules to service the facility
   b.) encourage use of public transportation by using incentive programs for employees or by selling tickets in facility
   c.) other:

☐ B. LAND USE AND ZONING
1. Existing land use and zoning
   a.) design project to comply with existing land use plans
   b.) design functional and visually appealing facility to set standard and precedent for future surrounding land use
   c.) other:

☐ C. COMMUNITY SERVICES
1. Police protection
   a.) minimize local police protection responsibilities by providing private security force
   b.) provide security systems, alarms for facility
   c.) provide equipment, funds or services directly to the community
   d.) other:
2. Fire protection
   a.) use construction materials that minimize fire hazards
   b.) incorporate sprinkler and alarm systems into building design
   c.) provide equipment, funds or services directly to the community
   d.) other:
3. Utilities
   a.) install utility services underground
   b.) incorporate water saving fixtures into facility design
   c.) incorporate energy-saving measures into facility design
   d.) other:

☐ D. CULTURAL RESOURCES
1. Visual resources
   a.) design exterior of structure to physically blend with existing surroundings
   b.) minimize visual impact through thoughtful and innovative design of lighting and signs (consider: height, size, intensity, glare and hours of lighting operation)
   c.) design landscaping to be visually pleasing and to serve as a buffer between surrounding land uses, parking areas, operational equipment and facilities
   d.) other:
2. Historic and archaeological resources
   a.) Prepare a plan, including measures to mitigate impacts to historic/archaeological resources through data recovery, avoidance and/or restriction of project activities

b.) develop measures to convey cultural information to the community (e.g. through scientific/popular reports, displays)
c.) preserve architecturally significant structures and make an adequate permanent photographic and statistical record of those that must be destroyed
d.) other:

3. Noise
a.) schedule construction/operation to occur during "normal business" hours minimizing noise impact during sensitive times (early morning, night)
b.) assure adherence to construction noise standards
c.) design berms and landscaping to block and absorb noise
d.) other:

VII. Adverse Environmental Effects that Cannot be Avoided if the Project is Implemented

Identify those adverse environmental effects in Section V that can be expected to occur regardless of the mitigation measures considered in Section VI.

VIII. Alternatives

This section contains categories of alternatives with examples. Discussion of each alternative should be at a level sufficient to permit a comparative assessment of costs, benefits and environmental risks for each alternative. It is not acceptable to make simple assertions that a particular alternative is or is not feasible. Identify those categories of alternatives which should be included in the EIS by placing a check in the box located to the left of the topic.

☐ A. ALTERNATIVE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES
1. Site layout
a.) density and location of structures
b.) location of access routes, parking and utility routes
2. Orientation
a.) compatibility with slope and drainage patterns
b.) site size and set back requirements
2. Technology
a.) pollution control equipment
b.) innovative vs. proven technologies
4. Mix of activities
a) addition of businesses which would affect the operational nature of the facility

☐ B. ALTERNATIVE SITES
1. Limiting factors
a.) availability of land
b.) suitability of alternative site to accomodate design requirements
c.) availability of utilities
d.) suitable market area
e.) compatibility with local zoning and master plan
f.) compatibility with certified agricultural districts
g.) compatibility with regional objectives
h.) accessibility of site to transportation routes and service population

☐ C. ALTERNATIVE SIZE
1. Increase or decrease project size to minimize possible impacts
2. Increase or decrease project size to correspond to market and community needs

☐ D. ALTERNATIVE CONSTRUCTION/ OPERATION SCHEDULING
1. Commence construction at a different time
2. Phase construction/operation
3. Restrict construction/operation work schedule

☐ E. ALTERNATIVE LAND USE
1. Suitability of site for other uses
a.) other types of commercial uses
b.) other types of industry
c.) different types of housing
d.) agricultural use
e.) other:

☐ F. NO ACTION
1. Impacts of no action
a,) effect on public need
b.) effect on private developers' need
c.) beneficial or adverse environmental impacts

☐ G. OTHER:

IX. Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Identify those natural and human resources listed in Section IV that will be consumed, converted or made unavailable for future use.

X. Growth Inducing Aspects (if applicable)

Describe in this section the potential growth aspects the proposed project may have. Listed on the next page are examples of topics that are typically affected by the growth induced by a project.

☐ A. POPULATION
1. Increases in business and resident population due to the creation or relocation of business
2. Increases in resident population due to the construction of housing

☐ B. SUPPORT FACILITIES
1. business created to serve the increased population
2. Service industries created to supply new facility

☐ C. DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL
1. Introduction or improvement of infrastructure (roads, waste disposal, sewers, water) to service proposed project
2. Creation of further growth potential by construction of improved infrastructure

☐ D. OTHER:

XI. Effects on the Use and Conservation of Energy Resources (if applicable)

Identify the energy sources to be used, anticipated levels of consumption and ways to reduce energy consumption. The examples listed below are typical issues to be considered when addressing this topic.

☐ A. PROPOSED ENERGY SOURCES AND ALTERNATIVES

☐ B. ANTICIPATED SHORT-TERM/LONG-TERM LEVELS OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION

☐ C. INDIRECT EFFECTS ON ENERGY CONSUMPTION
1. Increased dependence on automobile use
2. Increased levels of traffic due to proposed project

☐ D. ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES
1. Design methods to reduce fuel use for heating, cooling and lighting
   a.) conventional technology
   examples:
   —insulation
   —thermopane windows
   —use of low wattage lights
   b.) innovative technology
   examples:
   —heat pumps
   —solar panels
   —wind energy
   —use of waste heat from an industrial plant
   —use of recycled materials
   c.) efficient layout
   examples:
   —orientation of structures in relation to summer and winter sunlight
   —clustering of structures to maximize common walls
   —shortening of utility runs
   —shared insulation and heating
2. Indirect energy benefits
   a.) location and design of facility to accomodate mass transit
   b.) use of shuttle buses
   c.) location of facility to minimize travel distance

☐ E. OTHER:

XII. Assessment of Unavailable Information

In certain situations involving major developments (such as an oil supertanker port, a liquid propane/natural gas storage facility, a resource recovery facility or a hazarduous waste treatment, storage or disposal facility), information regarding reasonably foreseeable catastrophic impacts to the environment may not be available. Such information may be unavailable because the means to obtain it are unknown or the cost of obtaining it is exhorbitant, or because there is uncertainty about its validity. If such information is essential to an agency's SEQR finding, the EIS must:

A. Identify the nature and relevance of such unavailable or uncertain information; and
B. Provide a summary of existing credible scientific evidence , if available; and
C. Assess the likelihood of occurrence and consequences of the potential impact, even if the probability is low, using theoretical approaches or research methods generally accepted in the scientific community.

This assessment should be applied only where reasonably foreseeable catastrophic impacts to the environment are possible and it is not intended to be applied in the review of such actions as shopping malls, residential subdivisions and commercial facilities even though the size and scale of some such projects may be extensive.

XIII. Appendices

Following is a list of materials typically used in support of the EIS.

A. List of underlying studies, reports and information considered and relied on in preparing statement

B. List all federal, state, regional, or local agencies, organizations, consultants and private

persons consulted in preparing the statement

C. Technical exhibits (if any) at a legible scale

D. Relevent correspondence regarding the projects may be included (required in the Final EIS)

Additional Draft EIS Scoping Topics

Indicate any additional topics for discussion in the Draft EIS. Attach additional sheets if necessary.